

Fifficktown Bridge
Local road spanning Little Conemaugh River
and Conrail Line, .3 miles E of confluence
South Fork
Cambria County
Pennsylvania

HAER No. PA-233

HAER
PA,
11- SoFo,
1-

PHOTOGRAPHS

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

HISTORIC AMERICAN ENGINEERING RECORD

HAER
PA,
11-SOFO,
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FIFFICKTOWN BRIDGE

HAER No. PA-233

Location: Local road spanning Little Conemaugh River and Conrail Line, .3 miles E of confluence, South Fork, Cambria County, Pennsylvania

USGS Quad: Geistown, Pennsylvania (1:24000)
UTM: 17 E.687510 N.4470680

Date of Construction: 1910

Builder: Fort Pitt Bridge Works, fabricator

Present Owner: Cambria County

Present Use: Vehicular Bridge

Significance: Constructed by a prominent Pittsburgh bridge building firm, this structure served the coal communities of South Fork and Ehrenfeld. The bridge also carried an interurban line across the Little Conemaugh River.

Project Information: In February 1987, the Historic American Engineering Record (HAER) and the Historic American Buildings Survey (HABS) began a multi-year historical and architectural documentation project in southwestern Pennsylvania. Carried out in conjunction with America's Industrial Heritage Project (AIHP), HAER undertook a comprehensive inventory of Blair and Cambria counties as the first step in identifying the region's surviving historic engineering works and industrial resources.

The results of this project have been published in Blair County and Cambria County, Pennsylvania: An Inventory of Historic Engineering and Industrial Sites (1990), edited by Gray Fitzsimons and produced by HABS/HAER for the National Park Service.

Compiler: Thomas Lindblom and Margaret Mulrooney, Historians
Gray Fitzsimons and Kenneth Rose, Editors

History:

Structure Type(s): Warren Deck Truss
Length: 535'; Number of Spans: 5; Length of Main Span: 105'
Material: Concrete; Condition: Good

The Fifficktown Bridge crosses the Little Conemaugh River and the old Pennsylvania Railroad Main Line (Conrail) north of South Fork. Built in 1909 by the Fort Pitt Bridge Works of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, the bridge is 535' long, and its main span, 105' in length, consists of a Warren deck truss with riveted gusset-plate connections. There are three Warren deck truss approach spans each approximately 70' long and a half-deck Warren truss 60' long. The trusses rest on concrete piers. The bridge, now threatened with demolition, retains much of its original detailing including ornate iron railings and full-width towers for overhead wires of the abandoned Northern Cambria Railway Company interurban railway.

Sources:
Nameplate on bridge.